

JORDAN TIMES

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New Germany to agree to neutron bomb

BONN, April 3 (R). — West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher flew to Washington tomorrow ready to agree to deployment of the controversial U.S. neutron bomb in West Germany, his party's defense spokesman said today. Herr Genscher himself would only say in a radio interview that Bonn's position on the weapon was firm. He declined to elaborate but his Free Democratic (liberal) Party, junior partner in the government coalition, said today leading politicians of all parties are now agreed on the need for the neutron bomb, whose radiation kills people but causes relatively little damage to property.

Volume 3, Number 719

AMMAN, TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 1978 — RABIE AL THANI 25, 1398

Angry Zionists threaten Oscars

LOS ANGELES, April 3 (R). — The threat of bitter political demonstrations tonight hung over Hollywood's biggest and most glittering annual ceremony -- the Oscar awards. The militant Jewish Defense League (JDL) has threatened to mount a protest against the appearance of British actress Vanessa Redgrave, who has been nominated for the best supporting actress award. But supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) said it would hold a counter-demonstration. More than 500 police were expected to be on hand outside the music centre during the Oscars presentation ceremony (from 03:00 GMT Tuesday) in case of clashes.

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

Carter issues further warning to South Africa at close of tour

MONROVIA, Liberia, April 3 (R). — U.S. President Jimmy Carter headed home for Washington today after winding up his three-day tour. He warned South Africa that failure to accept international proposals in Namibia could lead to serious trouble with the United States.

Carter told reporters on his flight to Monrovia that if the Africans "reject a reasonable proposal and move unilaterally, it would be a serious violation of their unwillingness to comply" with the views of the world community.

Mr. Carter said such action by South Africa was "one thing" that could precipitate more serious differences between us and South Africa."

The United States' rejection of a total economic embargo against South Africa was one of the key differences that developed during the president's trip to Nigerian leader Olusegun Obasanjo.

Less concerned,

A.P. — Mr. Obasanjo told Carter Sunday

in an exchange of toasts at a state dinner in Lagos that he was deeply concerned about "foreign collaboration with the South African regime, particularly in economic and military matters."

This was seen as a direct reference, with Carter at his meeting with the American failure to support a tougher international arms embargo against

Soviet scornful.

SCOW, April 3 (AP). — President Jimmy Carter's visit to Rhodesia is bringing "diplomatic points" and is aimed mainly at testing U.S. views on Third World countries, according to U.S. press commentaries on his journey. The Soviet press gave little space to Carter's trip, which coincided with visit by Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev to the Soviet Union. Carter's journey has not merited more than a few paragraphs per day in Soviet papers.

Earlier last month, Zambia

announced a major incursion by the Rhodesians in the Feira area 210 kms. south-east of Lusaka. But there has been no announcement concerning the latest raid and Zambia has consistently denied that Rhodesian raids are aimed at guerrilla camps.

The raid took place last weekend at the southern end of Lake Kariba — part of the 260 kms. border between Rhodesia and Zambia, which provides facilities for the guerrillas of Mr. Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU (Zimbabwe African People's Union).

Medical sources said 40 guerrillas had been injured in the raid. Western intelligence sources said there were unconfirmed reports that the death toll was higher.

The raid appeared to be part of a strategy to protect the so-called internal settlement between Rhodesian whites and black moderates against disruption by guerrillas.

Witnesses said jet warplanes spearheaded the attack, followed by helicopters south of Zimzongwe on the northern bank of Lake Kariba. Firing was heard some 32 to 48 kms. inside Zambia, they said.

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Cabinet holds special session under King on eve of Badran's visit to Libyan Jamahiriya

AMMAN, April 3 (Agencies). — The Jordanian cabinet, chaired in a special session by His Majesty King Hussein, started today preparing a detailed plan for greater Arab cooperation. The plan will be submitted to the proposed Arab summit called by Jordan, Sudan and North Yemen to promote increased Arab unity.

The plan will suggest ways of improving Arab cooperation in the fields of diplomacy, information and economy, and would suggest means of supporting the inhabitants of the occupied Arab territories.

During the three-hour session, the King reviewed the present Arab situation, the critical conditions in which the area is now passing and the urgent responsibilities which should be borne by the Arab countries to defend their rights, security and national integrity.

His Majesty made an analysis of potentials of Arab strength, means of promoting Arab solidarity and utilisation of Arab capabilities in the service of future Arab destiny. King Hussein called for speedy movement to restore Arab solidarity and cooperation to work out a comprehensive plan to face up with the imminent threats.

Meeting with Badran

Before chairing the cabinet session the King held a meeting with Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Chief of the Royal Hashemite Court Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Lt.-Gen. Zeid Ibn Shaker.

Mr. Badran will pay a three-day official visit to the Libyan Jamahiriya starting Tuesday.

The visit, at the invitation of the first secretary of the General People's Committee, Abdel Ati Al Abidi, will be the first by a Jordanian Prime Minister since Col. Qadhafi took power in 1969.

Mr. Badran's talks with Mr. Al Abidi and other officials

are expected to cover bilateral relations and the current Arab situation. He will be accompanied by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim, and his press adviser, Mr. Hailan Qassous.

A Royal Decree was issued today appointing Minister of Education Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali as Acting Prime Minister during Mr. Badran's visit to the Libyan Jamahiriya.

The royal decree also appointed Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh as acting Minister of State for Foreign Affairs during the absence of Mr. Ibrahim.

Dayan delivers message from Begin

BUCHAREST, April 3 (R). — Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan today delivered a personal message from Premier Menachem Begin during talks with Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, the only Soviet bloc leader to maintain diplomatic ties with Israel.

Details of the message from Mr. Begin were not immediately disclosed, the official Agence France Presse news agency reported.

Mr. Dayan, who arrived last night for a two-day official visit, conferred with the Romanian leader on recent developments in the Middle East and

related international topics, Agence France Presse said.

During his stay, the Israeli foreign minister is expected to review his trip to Washington earlier this month with Mr. Begin for talks with President Carter.

Mr. Ceausescu will have talks with the American president during an official visit to the United States beginning next Wednesday.

The Romanian leader, who is credited with paving the way for Mr. Begin's first meeting with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat in Jerusalem last November, is the only Soviet bloc chief to have endorsed the Egyptian-Israeli peace initiatives.

But he has repeatedly demanded a total Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab lands. Mr. Ceausescu has denied any interest in mediating between Israel and Egypt but diplomats here say both countries regard the Romanian leader as a useful channel for getting their Middle East policies known in Moscow.

Meanwhile a Lebanese paper reported today that Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat is

expected to visit Romania soon, following the present visit there by Mr. Dayan.

The independent daily An Nahar, quoting Palestinian sources, said Mr. Arafat has received an invitation from the Romanian President.

Palestinian officials made no immediate comment on the report. Mr. Arafat's travel plans are usually kept secret.

Israeli demonstrators ask for moderation

TEL AVIV, April 3 (R). — Thousands of Israelis gathered in Tel Aviv's main square over the weekend and called on Prime Minister Menachem Begin to moderate his policy for Middle East peace.

Some 45,000 people participated in the demonstration — which was held under the slogan: "Peace is preferable to an enlarged Israel".

The call referred to Mr. Begin's refusal to make territorial concessions on the West Bank.

The demonstration was organised by 300 reservist officers who a month ago sent a letter to the prime minister and urged him to make more concessions in his peace plan.

One of the officers addressed the gathering and said: "We are prepared to follow you and support you in risks that you take for the cause of peace but not to support Jewish settlements in occupied Arab lands."

The two issues of Israeli settlements on occupied Arab lands and the extent of concessions Israel was willing to make in return for peace have been listed by Egyptian leaders as the main stumbling blocks in negotiations between the two countries.

Meanwhile Arab pupils, protesting against Israel's invasion of southern Lebanon, demonstrated at several schools in the occupied West Bank on Sunday, police said.

The demonstrators were dispersed by security forces and five people were detained.

Students in Nablus built rock barricades in the main street near their school. They were forced back by police who took down the barriers.

High school students milled through the town of Jenin, shouting slogans against the Israeli invasion. They also showed support for Yasser Arafat, the head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Meanwhile in Occupied Jerusalem police removed an explosive charge hidden in a briefcase from the grounds of the Hebrew University before it did any damage.

Police said students had stopped the case abandoned on the university grounds.

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Old warriors being tested

The demonstrations in Tel Aviv over the weekend in which some 45,000 Israelis protested the hardline policies of Premier Menachem Begin are an interesting development, and possibly a harbinger of bigger things to come. What is obvious today inside Israel is that the country's timespan of politico-psychological trends has been shortened. The invasion of southern Lebanon, which would have kept the Israelis happy for at least six months in days past, has now lost its emotional value, and is being questioned at the highest levels inside Israel. The rallying around Premier Begin, which would normally have exempted him from domestic attacks in order that he may stare down the Americans at a time of obvious confrontation, lasted no more than a week.

The demonstration in Tel Aviv -- doubly significant because it was organised by reserve army officers -- is an indication of a new mood of political divisiveness within Israel. While this would have been covered up before to present a united Israeli face to the world, today the cover-up becomes more difficult. It is more difficult for the present leadership in Israel to expect the blind support of its citizenry when the citizenry can see quite plainly that the policies of its leaders are probably throwing away the most solid chance for true peace that Israel has ever stumbled into. One is tempted to look at Israel today and equate the situation with the United States in the mid-1960s, when an obdurate and maniacal government policy was gradually tempered and turned around by the force of grassroots protests similar to what took place in Tel Aviv this weekend. We may be dealing with a situation where if the leaders don't change their policies the people will change their leaders. For when 45,000 Israelis gather in the streets to say that occupied territories should be traded for real security, we may be seeing an internal political evolution in Israel and in Zionism that is unprecedented. It remains to be seen whether the old warriors of Zionism such as Menachem Begin and Moshe Dayan have the ability to survive such cataclysmic forces.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Commenting on Premier Mudar Badran's imminent visit to the Libyan Jamahiriya (Tuesday) AL DUSTOUR Monday described the visit as a natural and healthy phenomenon in search of concerted Arab action and building bridges between different Arab regimes.

The newspaper says that Jordan, with its brave and wise leadership, has proved that it is always above the discord among the Arabs, and is still calling -- as it has always done -- for unified Arab action based on dialogue.

The newspaper commends Libya's initiative to restore diplomatic relations with Jordan and for extending an invitation to the Jordanian prime minister to visit Tripoli. It hopes that the outcome of the visit would be for the good of the two countries and the Arab nation as a whole.

In his column "A Word" in AL RAT, Jum'a Hammad warns against over-dramatising the reported differences between U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin. He says he agrees with those who suspect the authenticity of these reports. But if they turn out to be true it would not be surprising that such differences of opinion could emerge over the adoption of the most advantageous manner of achieving the respective interests of the two countries which can, on no account, be in the interest of the people of this area...

Mr. Hammad thinks that the over dramatisation of such reports stems from a chronic inferiority complex prevailing in the Arab World "that salvation comes from abroad, from a third party, to solve our problems, big and small."

It is a serious misconception, a sign of impotence, to hope that the solution of our problems will come at the hands of America, because a foreign mediator looks to his own interest first

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Economic and Business News

Central Bank approves establishment of new bank

AMMAN, April 3 (JNA). — Jordan Central Bank today approved the establishment of a new bank in Jordan to be called the Arab Jordanian Investment Bank which will have a capital of five million dinars, a source at the Central Bank said here today. The new bank, with 40 per cent Jordanian ownership, will make funds available for financing industrial and agricultural projects in Jordan. The Jordanian government owns part of the new bank's capital through investment made by the Housing Bank and the Pension Fund.

New trade agreement with Egypt approved

AMMAN, April 3 (JNA). — A Royal decree was issued Sunday approving the protocol to the trade agreement recently concluded between Egypt and Jordan. The two countries agreed to increase the volume of exchanged trade to reach the \$50m level with \$25m allocated for each country. The new accord also provides for exempting national products of duties and customs fees. The two sides agreed to encourage the holding of exhibitions in Jordan and Egypt with the aim of boosting trade. According to the protocol supplement, Jordan will export to Egypt, among other things, leather worth \$850,000; raw wool, \$750,000; scrap iron, \$2,300,000; scrap copper, \$1,200,000; lead moulds, \$750,000; woollen fabric \$950,000; plastic granules, \$500,000; and batteries, \$500,000. Egypt will export to Jordan rice worth \$6,000,000; agricultural produce, \$500,000; raw cotton, \$200,000; cotton yarn, \$500,000; and cotton fabrics, \$1,000,000. Furthermore the commercial centres in Amman and Cairo are each allowed to import goods and commodities worth \$2,000,000.

Alia shows profit increase of 22 per cent

AMMAN, April 3 (JT). — The Finance Department of Alia the Royal Jordanian Airline has finalised the accounts of the year 1977 which showed a net profit of JD 222,767 and reflected an increase of 22 per cent over last year. This is in the same year Alia introduced the Jumbo operation and opened the major route between

WHAT'S GOING ON

Book Exhibition

The exhibition of books on fine arts continues today at the University of Jordan Library. The exhibition is on for one week ending Saturday.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Jordan Times welcomes letters from its readers commenting on material published in the newspaper or on any matter of public interest. Letters should be typed, double-spaced, and preferably not longer than 300 words. They will be edited only for style and grammatical purposes, and letters longer than 300 words may be shortened at the editor's discretion.

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Amman and New York. The income generated by the operations was sufficient to pay all the expenses of crew training, development of new routes, interest and installment of the loans which were all paid on time. All this was achieved despite the heavy losses incurred on the Amman-Aqaba and Amman-Damascus routes.

Jordanian-Syrian industrial meet to take place Saturday

AMMAN, April 3 (JNA). — The joint Jordanian-Syrian industrial coordination committee is scheduled to hold a meeting in Amman on Saturday to review reports presented by subcommittees on various industries subject to coordination between the two countries. The under-secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce who heads Jordan's team to the committee meetings said that the committee will work out a unified system to study the economic feasibility of certain future industrial projects that would be set up in the two countries. The Syrian team to the three day meetings will be headed by the under-secretary of the Ministry of Industry.

Important industrial information available

AMMAN, April 3 (JNA). — Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce Dr. Hashem Dabbas said today that the Directorate of Studies and Encouragement of Investment at the ministry has preliminary studies, in Arabic concerning a number of industries. Each study contains important information such as industrial operations, installation of factories, machines, equipment and working shifts. Dr. Dabbas pointed out that the industrial projects involved in these studies include foodstuffs, such as canning, bread and biscuit production and fodder, starch and candies preparation. They also include certain industries of textiles, medical fabrics, fibre ropes, wood and cardboard and others. Dr. Dabbas said the Directorate of Studies and Encouragement of Investment is ready to provide persons who want to set up any of these enterprises with the available information.

Industrial, agricultural, tourist projects exempt from taxes

AMMAN, April 3 (JNA). — Thirty eight industrial, agricultural and tourist projects will be exempt from customs and import fees, it was decided today at a meeting of the committee for development encouragement chaired by Ministry of Finance Under-secretary Hashem Dabbas. The decision will later be submitted for approval by the Cabinet.



His Highness Crown Prince Hassan holds talks with Mr. John Tomlinson, visiting British Parliamentary Under-secretary at the Ministry of Overseas Development (to Prince Hassan's left). British Ambassador John Moberley is seated at Mr. Tomlinson's left next to two unidentified British officials.

Visiting British minister confers with Prince Hassan on development projects

AMMAN, April 3 (JNA). — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan today met with Mr. John Tomlinson, MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the British Ministry of Overseas Development and his accompanying delegation in the presence of British Ambassador John Moberley and the embassy's top officials.

The Crown Prince outlined to the delegation the phased planning in Jordan to achieve a balanced redistribution of population in all parts of the Kingdom. An attempt is being made to shift population to areas in which big projects are located in accordance with comprehensive regional planning for the Kingdom to reduce pressure on the capital and facilitate the provision of better services.

Prince Hassan indicated that it is planned to provide regionalised health and social services to a number of neighbouring villages. Work has already started in a pioneer scheme of this sort at the 'Allan' centre, he said.

Mr. Tomlinson who arrived here yesterday expressed particular interest in collective housing projects which Jordan is now implementing. He said that he had visited the Jordan Valley today and had a close look at the integrated development projects there, comprising housing, power, water, roads, schools building and health services.

He stressed that regional planning is the sound way to achieve a just distribution of national income.

Replying to Mr. Tomlinson's enquiries about future projects in Wadi 'Araba, the Crown Prince said that water is available there but due to soil salinity modern methods of irrigation and agriculture would have to be employed there.

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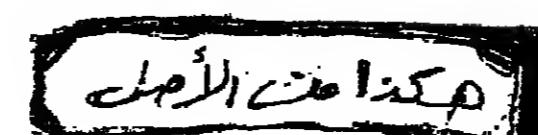
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Prefab factory lifts off

By Ian Kellie
Tal to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, April 4 — The solid of a two-storey house is being off a lorry trailer together and the be erected by a six-man construction team all day's work.

A dusty hillside close to the airport, Sabri Farah (SFI) are building first prefabricated factory. The factory will not yet reach full production in August this year. The production of moulded concrete walls has already started at Mr. Farah's factory.

Because of the scale of the company's production, prices of panels can be kept competitive. But Dr. Jalal Dawani, the plant manager, took pains to point out that a high standard of concrete is required to allow the panels to be hoisted out of their moulds and swing about on cranes. The finishing which can be achieved with casting appears to be very smooth. And there is an added advantage to prefab, which is that quality control is much easier, Dr. Dawani said.

So the company is not confined to low-cost housing projects. Their large-panel system is just as suitable for the luxury market. In the second stage of development at the factory, SFI will be producing skeleton structures and hollow core panels, suitable for industrial construction.

Big housing market

But the company is concentrating all the same on the housing market at the moment. "The market -- or rather the need -- in Jordan is huge," Mr. Farah said. "If the Five Year Plan is to be implemented," he continued "we shall have more work than we can handle." The plan aims at constructing about 31,000 housing units between 1978 and 1980. When operating at full capacity the SFI factory will be able to turn out 2,000 units every year.

Sabri Farah, have already won JD 3.3 million contract to build 1002 houses on an estate close to the factory at Marka. You can see the prefabs being put together there now, a bit like playing cards. Six-man construction teams, will each be turning up one two-storey house a day. If everything goes according to schedule, construction will be completed by February 1979.

Home-grown technology

The factory gets almost all its materials locally. PVC tubes and conduits, which are

manufactured nearby, are

reinforcing steel rods and

coated door and window

fittings. The 45 tons of

sand and cement which the

factory gets through a day is

more than a local

lot of the technology at

factory is home-grown.

Tables for moulding the

concrete were designed and

manufactured by Sabri Farah

himself. They cost one quan-

as much as tables from

overseas.

Overhead crane cases

and suddenly disgorge a

of heavy concrete into

horizontal moulding

Factory hands hurry to

it off evenly before

the electric vibra-

which settles the con-

into the mould. Next day

is turned upright on

the sides. The panel is

carried off to be stacked

highly dry on a special rack

Tomlinson, the end of the factory.

British when it comes to erecting

the wall-sized panels

company bound together with

rod continuity rods or conc-

rete which is poured down cav-

ities left on the sides of the

the walls. "In this way you will

have a completely monolithic

of the living" Mr. Sabri Farah,

the President told the Jor-

Times. The system can

be used for buildings of up to 23 storeys, he

said.

to the de

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and

conducts, which are

manufactured nearby, as are

reinforcing steel rods and

coated door and window

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factory gets through a day is

more than a local

lot of the technology at

factory is home-grown.

Tables for moulding the

concrete were designed and

manufactured by Sabri Farah

himself. They cost one quan-

as much as tables from

overseas.

Overhead crane cases

and suddenly disgorge a

of heavy concrete into

horizontal moulding

Factory hands hurry to

it off evenly before

the electric vibra-

which settles the con-

into the mould. Next day

is turned upright on

the sides. The panel is

carried off to be stacked

highly dry on a special rack

Tomlinson, the end of the factory.

British when it comes to erecting

the wall-sized panels

company bound together with

rod continuity rods or conc-

rete which is poured down cav-

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Iraq plans to press OPEC to take action on declining dollar

KUWAIT, April 3 (R). — Iraqi Oil Minister Tayeh Abdul Karim was quoted here today as saying OPEC states must act to compensate for losses resulting from continued decline of the U.S. dollar in which their oil is priced. In an interview with the Kuwait newspaper Al Watan, Mr. Abdul Karim said Iraq planned to "renew its efforts to press the OPEC states to protect their own financial interests which have sustained very heavy losses as a result of the dollar decline."

Iraq argued unsuccessfully at an OPEC conference three months ago for an oil price rise of about 25 per cent.

OPEC was due to hold an informal meeting in Geneva today but the meeting was postponed for a month mainly due to continued differences over what action to take on the dollar.

The Iraqi minister said the dollar slide was "a deliberate attempt by America and other allied capitalist states to help them escape from their own economic crisis."

"These capitalist states are primary beneficiaries of the

falling value of the dollar. While buying oil at effectively reduced prices, they continue to export their industrialised goods and their services at exorbitant rates," he added.

Mr. Abdul Karim called on the 13 OPEC nations to programme their oil production in a way which would eliminate the present surplus in the world oil market.

He said OPEC states must strengthen their organisation and enhance its unity "in order to protect the economic interests of their peoples."

He said Western-generated inflation had raised prices in

the developing world by 160 per cent since 1974.

Oil price cuts

In a separate development the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES), published in Nicosia said today that Nigeria, Algeria and the Libyan Jamahiriya had decided to reduce most of their crude oil prices for the second quarter of this year because of rising competition from North Sea oil.

But the publication said observers doubted that the amount of the reduction -- 15 to 23 cents a barrel -- was big enough to have much effect on the volume of oil exported by the three countries.

The survey, which specialises in news about oil, said the reductions were coordinated by the three at a recent meeting in London.

It said Algeria had decided on a 15 cent reduction and Nigeria on between 21 and 23 cents. Libya was reported to have approved a 15 cent cut.

The dollar dived to a post-war record low rate of 218 yen from Friday's close of 223.40 when a record U.S. monthly trade deficit of \$4.52 billion was announced for February.

Mr. Fukuda told the Upper House Budget Committee he would ask President Carter to take immediate steps to help stop the dollar's slide on international money markets.

A further blow for the dollar was the announcement that Japan's external reserves reached a record \$29.2 billion dollars at the end of last month.

The figure, announced by the Finance Ministry after the close of trading, compares with the previous month's record trading.

The dollar opened at 220, compared with 223.40 at Friday's close.

It slumped almost immediately to 218 following dollar selling pressure from foreign banks to buy yen for overseas centres. It fluctuated during the day and closed at 218.20 yen.

The Bank of Japan, which last month bought an estimated \$4 billion to \$4.5 billion in Tokyo to defend the dollar, did not intervene today, dealers said. A total of \$425 million changed hands in active trading.

Prices Monday closed quietly easier ahead of the British budget next week. Shares drifted lower on lack of interest and in line with government stocks which saw some nervous selling ahead of tomorrow's banking figures, dealers said.

Leading industrials were mostly 1p to 4p easier and at noon, the F.T. index was down 3.3 at 460.5. Long-dated government bonds were around 3/8 point easier while shorter-term loans lost around 1/4.

Mining shares firmed against the trend in line with the higher bullion price and Australians gained in line with some market movements.

Both B.P. and Shell were ex-dividend in oils and opened 18p and 10p lower respectively before easing a few pence further during the session. Banks were steady while in the shipping sector, Ocean Transport and Trading, which was initially marked up following results, finished 2p down on the day.

Among leaders, ICI recovered to around 357 after an earlier 3p fall, while losses of a few pence were seen in Courtaulds, Marks, Fisons, ENI, GKN and Hawker. John Brown, Turner and Newall, BAT and Unilever all gained slightly against the trend.

Dollar takes dive

TOKYO, April 3 (R). — The U.S. dollar dived yet again on the Tokyo Foreign Exchange Market today, and Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda blamed the latest record U.S. trade deficit.

The dollar dipped to a post-war record low rate of 218 yen from Friday's close of 223.40 when a record U.S. monthly trade deficit of \$4.52 billion was announced for February.

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FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON, (R). — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies against the dollar at the close of interbank trading on the London foreign exchange market last night. Tourist rates will differ from those quoted below.

One sterling	1.8675/85	U.S. dollars
One dollar	2.0060/80	West German marks
	2.1475/95	Dutch guilders
	1.8470/8500	Swiss francs
	31.25/29	Belgian francs
	4.5475/5600	French francs
	849.25/850.00	Italian lire
	218.50/70	Japanese yen
	4.5475/83	Swedish crowns
	5.2990/3010	Norwegian crowns
	5.5230/50	Danish crowns

Price of gold closed in London Monday at \$182.55/oz.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

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"photovoltaic converters" and rely for their operation upon thin cells of silicon or cadmium sulphide which convert light from the sun or even from an overcast sky into small electric currents.

The European Community countries are at present spending nearly half their solar energy research budget on this type of device and at least 30 development projects are now going ahead in Europe alone.

So even in Britain, with its often cloudy skies, the outlook for solar power looks good. It is now up to the scientists and engineers to carry on improving the equipment to enable us to make ever better use of one of our most abundant and easily available energy supplies.

Britain starts powering telephones with sunshine

By Dermot McKeone

LONDON, (LPS) — Sun powered telephones are now coming into service. They show that one of the most effective uses of solar energy is for producing small electric currents in remote or otherwise difficult places.

The British Post Office is already using solar cells for this purpose and recently announced that for the past two years a warden's post in a remote part of a bird sanctuary in England has been using solar energy to power its telephone link.

For offshore islands

The Post Office, which is Britain's telephone authority, is clearly thinking of thousands of offshore islands in Shetland, Orkney and the Hebrides as well as bird sanctuaries when it undertakes to carry out the experiment. These islands are often connected to the mainland or to a larger island nearby a very high frequency (VHF) radio link. The transmitter and receiver must both be supplied with power, and where the local generation of electricity presents problems solar energy may well be the answer.

They say they gave a month's notice of the strike but that there was no response from their employers until a few days before their old labour contracts expired on March 31.

The journalists say their pay has fallen in recent years some 50 per cent behind that in other professions, but the newspaper publishers say they cannot afford the increases demanded.

Journalists employed on evening and night shifts work a 24-hour week while those on day shifts work a standard 28-hour week. But their take-home pay is 60 to 70 per cent higher than their basic salaries through overtime and other fringe benefits.

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Your Daily HOROSCOPE

on the CARROLL RIGGERTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Time to think out a school of thought under which you can operate during the days ahead. Use some updated methods which have been found to bring you success. Reduce your overall aims now to specific particulars.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Contact highly successful individuals, and find out how they became that way. Get good ideas for your own improvement. Have a frank talk with friends. Avoid a known gossip.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You get excellent ideas now from good friends on how to gain your aims more easily. Get together with them at some recreational activity after work is done. Do whatever will improve your credit, also.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Study your true position in your community and do whatever will improve it. Your credit can stand some improvement now, also.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Formulate a new aim for the days ahead after you have studied new methods & current trends. Contact persons with a background different from your own and enjoy their company.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Ideal day to study your accounts & plan how best to handle them in the future. Try to comprehend your mate's ideas better and be happier, have more harmony. Use that Leo charm more.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Study your position with associates and know how best to proceed in the future, we a different perspective where civic matters are concerned, also.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Get an early start on work ahead of you and use more advanced methods for best results. Confer with co-workers and coordinate your efforts more intelligently also.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get out to amusements you joy most during spare time. Mate or loved one is in the mood to go along with you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Study home affairs and whatever will make them better, have more peace there. Look into some new interest that could help you get ahead later in the future. Be dynamic.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Handle obligations with low-key and start an uptrend in days ahead. Try to understand friends and kin better. Avoid a hypocrite.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Seek the favor of persons who have power over your financial affairs. Improve budget so, and add to your assets.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Be more interested in your affairs and needs and forget others for the time being, be sure to gain personal aims wisely. Get together with good friends and have a good time.

RESTAURANT TAIWAN TOURISM

Jordan's largest and most

Renowned Chinese restaurant offers you a gourmet's trip to the Far East via superior oriental cuisine and authentic northern Chinese and Cantonese dishes.

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Circle, Jabal Amman, Telephone 41093

We would like you to join us at the Daily Dish. Arabic & European dishes. At

GRAFFITI
FRIENDS GO TO LUNCH EVEN WHEN NEITHER CAN DEDUCT IT

OUT & ABOUT

THE DIPLOMAT

Jabal Azman First Circle tel. 25392 announces good news to our customers.

We have now famous Lebanese cooks and staff and we are ready to offer Lebanese specialities as well as oriental and European cuisine at the most reasonable prices.

QUICK MEAL

Restaurants for broasted chicken and light snacks. Home, lunch or dinner at Amman, First Circle. Tel. 21083. Jabal Al Luweibeh, Hawaz Circle. Tel. 30046 Al Al Hussein, near Jermia Cinema. Tel. 21781. Also in Zarqa and Irbid.

CHINESE RESTAURANT

First Chinese restaurant in Jordan. First Circle, Jabal Amman, near the Alaylah School or CME. Tel. 38863. Open daily from noon to 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Also take home service - order by phone.

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CHINESE STEAKHOUSE

Iraq Wings Hotel, Jabal Luweibeh. Tel. 22163/4.

Choice of THREE set meals daily for lunch, and a carte.

Open 12:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Specialty: steaks.

German transsexuals face legal problems Two prominent Austrians are squabbling over U.N. issues

By Stephen Powell

BONN, (R.) — Dr. Gernot Hoffmann is one of West Germany's 3,000 transsexuals. Because of the country's laws she cannot marry and cannot start her own medical practice unless she dresses as a man.

Dr. Hoffmann, an attractive 30-year-old, had a sex change operation four years ago. She wanted to change her name from Gernot to Gerda and be recognised officially as a woman. Her request was refused.

Under West German law the sex of a person is established at birth. This was confirmed by the constitutional court in Karlsruhe in 1972.

Dr. Hoffmann, who works in a clinic in the Saarland area near the French border, told Reuters: "I face all sorts of problems because of this law. For instance, I have very great difficulty leaving the country. Border guards will never believe I am who I say I am on my passport. On one occasion they were convinced I was a terrorist."

Help is at hand

But help for the country's transsexuals is at hand.

A bill recognising that surgery can change a person's sex is expected to become law some time this year. The Bonn Government has sent the bill to the Laender (federal states) for comment.

Perhaps the biggest legal handicap transsexuals have to live with under the present law is that they cannot marry. Dr. Hoffmann has a fiance and is waiting impatiently for the introduction of the new law so that she can marry.

Marriage between people of the same sex is forbidden under West German law.

Officials boast that West Germany is in the forefront of progressive change in this area of legislation, but the transsexuals see the matter differently. For them, West Germany is the laggard bringing up the rear.

According to Dr. Hoffmann, "West Germany is the only country in Europe where transsexuals have such problems."

Rigid interpretation

She added: "It may be true that not many states have

legislation specifically dealing with transsexuals, but not every country interprets its existing laws as rigidly as West Germany does. The country is ranged on the same side as Chile and the Moslem world in this respect."

Besides affecting her marriage plans, the present law has also hampered Dr. Hoffmann's career.

"When I applied to start my own medical practice as a woman doctor, I was told by the authorities that this was not possible. I could only practise as a male doctor and dress as a man," she said.

The West German press has reported examples of other transsexuals who have difficulties with officialdom.

There was the case of a Hamburg taxi driver who, born female, changed her sex to become a man, police found it hard to believe that the bearded taxi driver with a rich, deep voice was truly Marianne Schloemann, as it said on the driving licence.

Not to be confused with homosexuals

The Schloemann case was a comparatively rare example of a woman becoming a man. Most transsexuals start life as men.

Transsexuals usually feel from childhood that they were born into the wrong sex. Dr. Hoffmann said she felt female even as a young boy.

Scientists say the phenomenon has nothing to do with homosexuality, but transsexuals have sometimes been treated as homosexuals.

"Hitler regarded transsexuals as homosexuals," said Dr. Hoffmann. "And during the war they were sent off to fight on the most dangerous battlefronts."

Dr. Hoffmann was largely responsible for creating awareness of the problems facing transsexuals, by airing the subject on a television talk show in 1976.

The new bill states that people must fulfil three conditions before they can officially change their sex.

They must be over 21, have undergone sex change surgery, and be no longer capable of reproduction.

Changes of sex will have to be established before a court of law.

By Sidney Weland

VIEENNA, (R.) — Two prominent Austrians, Chancellor Bruno Kreisky and United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, have been squabbling publicly over U.N. peace-keeping operations.

Dr. Waldheim turned first to his own country and Sweden when the U.N. decided to rush a 4,000-man force to southern Lebanon. The Swedes agreed promptly, but the Austrians delayed.

Faced with a list of conditions set by Dr. Kreisky, the secretary general cancelled the request. With Sweden, Iran, France and Norway ready to send troops, the Austrians were no longer needed.

Austrian diplomats were infuriated by the brush-off. They were angered also when Dr. Waldheim was quoted by a Vienna newspaper as saying that Austria's hesitation caused "surprise and astonishment" among U.S. delegates.

Both Dr. Waldheim and Dr. Kreisky were forced into a defensive position as the incident quickly developed into an open row between Vienna and U.N. headquarters.

Prestige

The chancellor responded sharply when Dr. Waldheim said he had only tried to help Austria gain more international prestige.

"Austria has already won enough prestige through its U.N. activities. We don't need any more," Dr. Kreisky said.

The Vienna government insisted it would allow troops to be diverted to Lebanon only when a ceasefire had become fully effective, and only if all parties concerned -- Israel, Lebanon, and the Palestinians -- agreed to the U.N. presence.

Meanwhile, the 200 Austrian and Dr. Waldheim had tried to move stayed on guard duty in the Golan Heights buffer zone between Israeli and Syrian forces, where Austrian units have been stationed since 1974.

Ten days after the U.N. request, Dr. Kreisky said his conditions for moving the Austrian soldiers into Lebanon had still not been fulfilled. Dr. Waldheim backtracked by saying the Austrians were still wanted, and that Vienna's conditions had been fully met.

Guarantees

The chancellor insisted he would make no request for parliamentary approval for the transfer of troops until he was sure the men would be safe.

"Who will guarantee that our soldiers won't be shot down like hares?" he asked.

Dr. Kreisky said Austria "is apparently not as attractive as we think." Dr. Waldheim said he would continue to support Vienna as a third U.N. headquarters city, but noted pointedly: "If one wants U.N. cooperation, one must also help the U.N. in critical times."

Dr. Kreisky answered the rebuke immediately. "I'm not looking for any trade-off. We are making U.N. city available to the U.N. free of charge. That is a very generous offer. Any linkage would be due only to misunderstandings."

The chancellor, 67, a socialist, and Dr. Waldheim, 59, a conservative who in 1971 was defeated in a bid to become Austria's president, are the country's best-known political personalities. Both are former diplomats.

in criticisms from some U.N. members that he was acting in a partisan fashion to push Austrian interests.

Fall support

In an interview with the leading Vienna daily Die Presse, Dr. Waldheim noted dryly that he was having trouble persuading some U.N. diplomats to move to Vienna. "The city," he said, "is apparently not as attractive as we think." Dr. Waldheim said he would continue to support Vienna as a third U.N. headquarters city, but noted pointedly: "If one wants U.N. cooperation, one must also help the U.N. in critical times."

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By John F. Crossland

LONDON (P.T.) — In an era of inflation who takes the place of the private patron in supporting the working artist?

The Arts Council underpins the precarious business of producing pictures to a certain extent but its role as purchaser of work is limited.

The need is being to some extent fulfilled by industrial sponsorship, the bringing together of artists and companies who can afford to invest in their work. Industrial Sponsors, which is registered as a charity, has already had some success in selling industrialists an attractive image of

In Britain, industry is only just learning the joys and benefits of sponsoring artistic works. But if Britain decides to learn from the United States in this field, happy days could be ahead for British artists.

themselves as patrons of the arts.

The latest success was a show in the foyer of the newly-renovated Astoria Theatre in Charing Cross Road in conjunction with the opening of the musical "Elvis". On the opening night £900 worth of paintings were sold. Brian Rix, theatre controller for the group, has made a permanent exhibition space available at

the theatre for art exhibitions.

Industrial Sponsors' organising committee calls on expertise from the arts and industry, and includes Ronald Alley, Keeper of the Modern Collection at the Tate Gallery; Lord Goodman and Edward Lucie-Smith, the art critics.

Direct approach

The committee's secretary, Mrs. Sybil Jaeger, favours the direct approach: "I always talk to the top man in a company," she says. "You know that personal invitations to attend an exhibition to meet prestigious people will be accepted." At the moment she is following up a tip that companies involved in the North Sea oil hunt are keen to polish up their image.

Some West End galleries make a living by playing on the timidity of investors, on their inclination to go for what has received the stamp of acceptance from the art mandarins. Mrs. Jaeger says: "I would like to see people spending a little less money and being more adventurous. There are a lot of good paintings selling for less than £500."

The Tolly-Cobbold brewery sponsored a travelling exhibition of British painting with a landscape theme, which visited several provincial galleries and ended up at the Camden Arts Centre. The total of work sold was £3,500. Some of the paintings were bought by European business contacts of Tolly-Cobbold.

Next year the brewery is presenting three bursaries of £1,000 each for photographers to work in East Anglia on the theme of waterways. Theatre-goers who visited the National Theatre in the autumn would have seen work hung

Mr. Paul Gillham, who organised the show for Prowse, says: "We wanted to get ourselves a marketplace presence while involving ourselves in something worthwhile. 70 per cent of our sales are to tourists; we felt we had to put something back so what better idea than through an art exhibition?" For an outlay of £5,500 they also felt that they had had a good return in publicity.

The show was part of a series celebrating the silver jubilee organised by the Greater London Picture Show Committee.

A further initiative which could greatly change modern art patronage in Britain is being taken by Mr. Martin Ackerman, owner of the magazine Arts Review. Mr. Ackerman, an American living here, wants modern British art to benefit from trans-Atlantic tax concessions.

In the United States an individual can give away paintings to a value of 30 per cent of his gross income and a corporation up to five per cent of its pre-tax income. Mr. Ackerman says: "I would like to see people spending a little less money and being more adventurous. There are a lot of good paintings selling for less than £500."

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-- Financial Times News Features

THE BETTER HALF

By Barnes

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Troops are sent to Hyderabad to quell police-student clashes

NEW DELHI, April 3 (R). — Troops were sent in to restore order today in the central Indian city of Hyderabad after police opened fire during a violent disturbance, killing four people and wounding 20, Samachar News Agency reported. Today's shooting was the latest incident in five days of unrest which followed the death of a man in police custody last Thursday.

Samachar, quoting an official statement, said Hyderabad and its twin city of Secunderabad had been placed under a 24-hour curfew.

When the shooting occurred, the two cities were coming to a standstill in response to a total strike call by state opposition parties.

A 22-year-old man was killed and three other people were wounded by police fire last Friday when university students staged a major demonstra-

tion against the death of the man in police custody.

The student-police confrontation spread to several parts of the city. Roads and railway lines were blocked by students and other demonstrators and several city buses were burned.

There was only sporadic violence in Hyderabad over the weekend.

But today's strike call by opposition parties in a state where the India Congress Party of former Prime Minister Mrs.

Indira Gandhi is in power brought out violent crowds.

Samachar said that police opened fire at several points in an attempt to control the situation.

The curfew is to remain in force until 6 a.m. (0030 GMT) on Wednesday.

Student demonstrators alleged that the man who died in custody had been beaten to death by police. His wife, who was arrested with him, was alleged to have been raped and admitted to a hospital.

The Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Dr. M. Chenna Reddy has ordered a judicial inquiry into the incident.

Fire guts Manila slum

MANILA, April 3 (R). — A huge fire swept through a slum area of Manila today, leaving thousands homeless and destroying efforts by firemen to bring it under control. The blaze, which started in the Tondo area, one of the Philippines capital's most crowded districts was still sending columns of flame leaping into the sky tonight, six hours after it broke out.

Hundreds of homes, many of them shacks, were destroyed and the government radio said several people were injured. High winds and an apparent shortage of water in the run-down area hampered firemen's efforts to bring the blaze under control.

The fire, the second in a Manila slum in the past month, came during an election campaign in which the government's new society movement has promised to upgrade the housing of thousands of city slum-dwellers.

Hillside strangler suspect may go free

LOS ANGELES, April 3 (R). — A man arrested on Thursday as a suspect in the "hillside strangler" case may go free on Tuesday if police are unable to find sufficient evidence against him, a police spokesman said yesterday.

Police Chief Daryl Gates, who on Thursday called the arrest of 37-year-old building maintenance man Peter Jones a major break in the case, said Saturday:

"At this time we wouldn't have sufficient evidence to go forward and file a complaint."

but that doesn't mean we might not have it Monday."

Mr. Jones was arrested after a long-time friend, George Shamshak, in prison for armed robbery in Massachusetts, denounced him for allegedly being involved in at least two of the 13 stranglings here.

Mr. Jones Saturday hired attorney Albert Johnson to represent him. Mr. Johnson, an associate of famed trial attorney F. Lee Bailey, took part in the Patricia Hearst trial and the My Lai court martial of Captain Ernest Medina during the Vietnam War.

The statement followed a st-

Anti-cancer drug found

HOUSTON, April 3 (R). — Scientists in California have developed a new drug, designed by a computer, that appears to cure some cancers in mice, an American Cancer Society conference was told here yesterday.

The drug has not been tested on humans and will not be for several years, the developers say. But it has cured leukemia and osteosarcoma (a form of bone cancer) in mice at the University of California at San Francisco and two other labs.

Dr. Martin Apple, who presented the research report to the society's seminar for science writers said a mouse with advanced leukemia may have between 10 and 100 million cancer cells in its bodies.

The new drug, called azotomycin, seems to kill them all, he said.

It does not appear to harm non-cancerous cells and had no ill effects on the mice, he added.

Premier Giulio Andreotti was to meet Italian political leaders later today to discuss latest developments in the hunt for Signor Moro, 61, who was kidnapped here 18 days ago by the leftist Red Brigades urban guerrilla group.

Five bodyguards were shot dead in the daylight raid on Signor Moro's car.

In Turin, the trial of 15 leftist Red Brigades members on charges of forming an armed band to subvert the state was resuming and some of the urban guerrillas, including leader Renato Curcio, were expected to testify.

There was no reaction from the captors of Signor Moro to Pope Paul's "vital and urgent appeal" yesterday for the statesman's release.

Apart from continuing their manhunt, police were apparently awaiting the guerrillas' next move, which will probably come in the form of another statement about their "trial" of Signor Moro, now held in what the Red Brigades call their "people's prison".

Roadblocks were also set up and homes and hotels were searched in Pescara.

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